REMARKS

Claims 1-36 were pending in the application. Claims 4, 7-9, 12, 16, 19-21, and 24-36 have been cancelled. Claims 1-3, 5-6, 10-11, 13-15, 17-18, and 22-23 have been amended. Claims 37-43 are newly submitted. Claims 1-3, 5-6, 10-11, 13-15, 17-18, 22-23, and 37-43 are currently pending in the application. Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the amendments to the claims and the following remarks.

I.   The § 112 Rejections

Claims 5, 17, and 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Applicant has amended the claims to remove the phrase "an equivalent of any of the foregoing". Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests withdrawal of the § 112 rejections.

II.   The § 103 Rejections

Claims 1-36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,924,089 ("Mocek") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,016,488 ("Bosworth") and U.S. Patent No. 5,721,897 ("Rubenstein").

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections.

Claim 1, as amended, recites a query assist tool for creating a query search condition. In particular, the query assist tool includes a user interface having a first display area to display names of columns that are selectable for use in a predicate of the query search condition; a second display area to display column operators that are selectable for use in the predicate of the query search condition; and a third display area to display an automatically generated list of all possible values that are selectable for use in the predicate of the query search condition, in which <u>each value in the automatically</u>

generated list of all possible values is listed based on a selected column operator in the
second display area.

    A. *Mocek Fails To Disclose a User Interface That Include a Display Area to
Display an Automatically Generated List of All Possible Values That Are
Selectable For Use In a Predicate of a Query Search Condition in Which
Each Value in the Automatically Generated List of Possible Values is Listed
Based On a Selected Column Operator*

Mocek discloses a system including a graphical user interface, in which the
graphical user interface includes a window that permits a user to enter database tables,
fields, and database commands. The window also displays a natural language translation
of the current status of a database command (see Abstract). FIG. 3F illustrates a
graphical user interface 370 that includes a listbox 380 including values that are to be
searched based on a conditional relational operator selected (or highlighted) within the
relational condition listbox 378. The values (e.g., entries 384, 386) in the listbox 380 are
search strings that have been entered by a user (col. 5, ll. 24-28).

Although Mocek discloses a listbox 380 that includes values that are to be
searched based on a conditional relational operator, Mocek fails to disclose a display area
to display an automatically generated list of all possible values that are selectable for use
in the predicate of the query search condition, as required by claim 1. Instead, the values
in Mocek's listbox 380 are values that need to be entered by a user.

Further, Mocek fails to disclose that each value in the automatically generated list
of all possible values is listed based on a selected column operator in the second display
area.

B. *Bosworth Fails To Disclose a User Interface That Include a Display Area to Display an Automatically Generated List of All Possible Values That Are Selectable For Use In a Predicate of a Query Search Condition in Which Each Value in the Automatically Generated List of Possible Values is Listed Based On a Selected Column Operator*

Bosworth discloses techniques for constructing queries that make changes to an entire set of data stored in a database (see Abstract). Bosworth discloses a graphical user interface (see e.g., FIG. 15) that permits a user to construct queries. As shown in FIG. 18, Bosworth discloses a criteria field 1811 that permits a user to enter a value for specifying a given criteria. However, as with Mocek, Bosworth discloses that the values in the criteria field are entered by a user (see col. 7, ll. 20-23). Thus, Bosworth fails to disclose a display area to display an <u>automatically generated list of all possible values</u> that are selectable for use in the predicate of the query search condition, as required by claim 1.

Further, Bosworth fails to disclose that each value in the automatically generated list of all possible values is listed based on a selected column operator in the second display area.

C. *Rubenstein Fails To Disclose a User Interface That Include a Display Area to Display an Automatically Generated List of All Possible Values That Are Selectable For Use In a Predicate of a Query Search Condition in Which Each Value in the Automatically Generated List of Possible Values is Listed Based On a Selected Column Operator*

Rubenstein discloses techniques for identifying a document from a plurality of documents stored on a computer-readable medium (see Abstract). Rubenstein, however, fails to disclose a display area to display an <u>automatically generated list of all possible values</u> that are selectable for use in the predicate of the query search condition, in which each value in the automatically generated list of all possible values is listed based on a selected column operator in the second display area, as required by claim 1.

D. *The claim has limitations not taught by either reference*

To establish *prima facie* obviousness of a claimed invention, all the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art.

Mocek, Bosworth, and Rubenstein fail to disclose a display area to display an automatically generated list of all possible values that are selectable for use in the predicate of the query search condition, in which each value in the automatically generated list of all possible values is listed based on a selected column operator in the second display area, as required by claim 1. Consequently, the combination of Mocek, Bosworth, and Rubenstein cannot render claim 1 obvious.

For at least these reasons, Applicant submits that claim 1, and the claims that depend therefrom, are in condition for allowance.

E. *Other Independent Claims*

Claims 13 and 37 each incorporates limitations similar to those of claim 1.

Claims 13 and 37 (and the claims that depend therefrom) are also allowable over Mocek,

Bosworth, and Rubenstein for reasons corresponding to those set forth with respect to

claim 1.

Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call the

undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

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Respectfully submitted,

SAWYER LAW GROUP LLP

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